

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

ABDULLA SULEIMAN,

Defendant.

**ORDER**

**20 Cr. 450 (LAK)**

WHEREAS, defendant ABDULLA SULEIMAN has stated an intent to enter a plea of guilty pursuant to a plea agreement in this case, and this Court has referred the change-of-plea proceedings to the duty Magistrate Judge;

WHEREAS the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic necessitates that the proceeding take place remotely, and the CARES Act and findings made by the Judicial Conference of the United States and Chief Judge Colleen McMahon of the Southern District of New York allow for guilty pleas to be taken by phone or videoconference, subject to certain findings made by the District Judge;

WHEREAS the Court understands that the duty Magistrate Judge shall conduct the defendant's change-of-plea proceeding by videoconference or by telephone if, due to scheduling limitations, videoconference is not reasonably available, and that the defendant consents that the proceeding occur remotely;


THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that the defendant's change-of-plea proceeding cannot be further delayed without serious harm to the interests of justice, because the case has been pending for eight months, during which period the defendant has been detained; because the defendant's intention to resolve the case prior to trial would be frustrated by further delay in light of the Court's intention shortly to set a trial date in this case; and because the parties and the public's interest in

finality, certainty, and the speedy disposition of criminal cases all require that the change-of-plea proceeding occur without further delay.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York  
~~April~~, 2021

May 3

  
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THE HONORABLE LEWIS A. KAPLAN  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK